United Nations A/53/6 (Prog.15)

General Assembly

Distr.: General
26 May 1998

Original: English

Fifty-third session

Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001

Programme 15. Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific

1. The preparation, format and content of the medium-term plan and its revisions are governed by the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation.

2. Regulation 3.11 provides, *inter alia*, that the medium-term plan shall be revised as necessary every two years to incorporate required programme changes and that the proposed revisions shall be as detailed as required to incorporate the programme implications of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the intergovernmental organs or international conferences since the adoption of the plan.

3. The revisions proposed below replace the narrative of programme 15, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001, which was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 51/219 of 18 December 1996 and issued in document A/51/6/Rev.1 and Corr.1.

4. The revisions stem from the adoption of resolution 53/1 by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in 1997, and the secretariat's subsequent consultations with members and associate members of the Commission. At its 224th and 225th sessions, held on 25 March and 8 April 1998, respectively, the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission reviewed the proposals for revision to the programme. Following the ACPR's review, further revisions were incorporated into the document, which was submitted to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session, held from 16 to 22 April 1998.

5. At that session, the Commission welcomed the revised programme structure, which would streamline the existing 10 subprogrammes to 7. It considered that the revised programme structure would be conducive to increased efficiency in the implementation of the programme of work of ESCAP. In view of the scope of the revisions, it was considered that their review would be facilitated by submitting the revised narrative of the programme in its entirety.

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Programme 15. Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific

15.1 The mandate of the programme derives from Economic and Social Council resolution 37 (IV) and 414 (XIII), which established ESCAP. The mandate has been further elaborated in a number of General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions adopted since, as well as in Commission resolutions, in particular, 47/3, 48/2 and 53/1.

15.2 The Asia and Pacific region is a most economically dynamic region, but not all the countries have been able to enjoy the benefits of the growing prosperity sweeping the region. While individual countries' priorities and policies may vary, there exists the common goal of sustainable economic growth, coupled with a focus on poverty alleviation. Against that backdrop, the overall orientation of the programme for which ESCAP is responsible is to heighten the awareness of member countries to the changes taking place, to assist those which are developing rapidly to do so in a non-destructive and beneficial way and, more important, to help the poorest countries improve opportunities for employment and economic growth, so that progress can be shared equitably by all. In this connection, the implementation of the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP region will be pursued. The programme will also identify key problem areas that each subregional grouping in the region is facing and develop and implement regional programmes in cooperation with United Nations organizations and specialized agencies, as well as regional intergovernmental organizations, to give tangible assistance to the developing countries in their economic and social development.

15.3 The Commission will continue to focus on three major themes, namely, (a) regional economic cooperation, with particular reference to the role of macroeconomic variables, trade and investment, industry and technology transfer. In so doing, priority will be given to addressing the short- and longer-term impact on economic development in the South-east and East Asian countries affected by the economic crisis, and the effects of the crisis on the region as a whole; (b) environment and sustainable development that seeks to contain environmental degradation and emphasizes sound management and sustainable use of non-renewable resources; and (c) poverty alleviation through economic growth, creation of job opportunities and social development, with emphasis on human resources development and the provision of social services to the people of the region, in particular, women, youth, the elderly and the disabled. The Commission will also pursue the implementation of programmes to improve intraregional and interregional infrastructure facilities and services to enhance international trade and tourism, improve the quality of life and strengthen the capacity of countries in the region to develop sustained statistical capacities for informed policy-making, planning and programme implementation. In that connection, the Commission will give priority to assisting the least developed, landlocked and island developing countries whose economic growth achievements remain well below the regional average and the Central Asian republics whose achievements, though improving, remain negative, with the goal of narrowing the disparity in economic growth between those countries and the emerging economies in the region. Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries (ECDC/TCDC), as well as the subregional groupings, will be further promoted.

15.4 The Commission's secretariat will continue its lead role in organizing meetings of heads of subregional organizations and in attaining a unified and effective United Nations system-wide approach to regional development through the Regional Inter-agency Committee for Asia and the Pacific and its subcommittees. It will emphasize South-South cooperation, including the triangular modality of collaboration, to guide specific activities in achieving the objectives of the various subprogrammes.

15.5 During 1996-1997, ESCAP conducted reviews of the thematic orientation of the intergovernmental structures and programmes of the Commission that were introduced in 1994. At its fifty-third session (in April 1997), the Commission recognized that the advantages of the thematic approach outweighed the disadvantages, and considered that a process of evolution was preferable to any radical change, and that the right approach would be to consolidate the gains wherever they had been made and to make the necessary changes in the case of those committees and subprogrammes where some reordering of programme areas or a clearer expression of focus could be of advantage. That was particularly felt with respect to the themes relating to poverty alleviation and environment and sustainable development. The Commission decided to retain the five-committee structure with changes as follows: (a) three thematic committees, namely, the Committee on Regional Economic Cooperation and its Steering Group; the Committee on Socio-economic Measures to Alleviate Poverty in Rural and Urban Areas; and the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Development; and (b) two other committees, namely, the Committee on Transport, Communications, Tourism and Infrastructure Development and the Committee on Statistics. The Commission also decided to retain the two special bodies on Least Developed and Landlocked Developing Countries, and on Pacific Island Developing Countries.

15.6 The Commission considered that the revised programme structure proposed below would be the most appropriate for carrying out the programme of work efficiently:

Subprogramme 1	Regional economic cooperation
Subprogramme 2	Development research and policy analysis
Subprogramme 3	Social development
Subprogramme 4	Population and rural and urban development
Subprogramme 5	Environment and natural resources development
Subprogramme 6	Transport, communications, tourism and infrastructure development
Subprogramme 7	Statistics

15.7 Under the revised programme structure, two subprogrammes, "Regional economic cooperation: trade and investment" and "Regional economic cooperation: industry and technology", are merged into one subprogramme. The new subprogramme seeks to strengthen regional economic cooperation in the promotion of trade, investment and technology linkages, and the acceleration of industrial development. Three subprogrammes relating to poverty alleviation are restructured into two subprogrammes, one to deal with social development issues and concerns, human resources development, and women in development, with specific reference to the alleviation of poverty, and the other to address social and economic issues in the areas of population and rural and urban development that are directly related to the alleviation of poverty. The objectives to be achieved through the implementation of the recommendations of the World Summit for Social Development and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), originally under the subprogramme on environment and sustainable development, are shifted to the subprogramme on social development and to the subprogramme on population and rural and urban development, as appropriate, in accordance with the terms of reference of the relevant legislative committees. The revised programme structure is in conformity with the revised conference structure mandated by the Commission.

15.8 The discontinuation of a separate subprogramme on least developed, landlocked and island developing countries does not imply that less pre-eminence is accorded to their needs

and concerns. Work for these groups of countries will continue to be given high priority and will be mainstreamed into the work of all the subprogrammes. The implementation of activities will be undertaken under the respective subprogrammes. In addition to its own activities in respect of these countries, under subprogramme 2, the Development Research and Policy Analysis Division assumes overall monitoring and coordination responsibilities for activities related to these countries carried out under the other subprogrammes. Furthermore, a gender perspective has been integrated into the mainstream of all relevant areas of work of ESCAP in compliance with the directives of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. The implementation of activities relating to gender issues will be coordinated by the Social Development Division under subprogramme 3.

15.9 By the end of the period covered by the plan, it is expected that the programme will have achieved the following:

(a) Gained the active and wider participation of the countries in the region in the development and implementation of regional programmes as mandated by the Commission;

(b) Accelerated follow-up to global conferences at the national level supported by the subregional and regional operational activities of ESCAP;

(c) Provided the essential regional link between the global and country levels of economic and social development programmes that would build up country-level capacity for development;

(d) Facilitated the sharing of experiences among countries at varying levels of development;

(e) Maximized the Commission's comparative advantage as a centre for policy research, analysis and information for the benefit of its member Governments;

(f) Completed analysis of the origins and effects of the current economic and monetary turmoil and formulated recommendations on ways and means for economies to avail themselves of international capital flows, while minimizing the attendant risks.

Subprogramme 15.1 Regional economic cooperation

15.10 The convergence of macroeconomic policies with increasing dependence on outward-oriented development strategies, reinforced by an intensifying trend towards liberalization across the region revalidates the rationale and widens the scope for economic cooperation in a region characterized by diversity and disparity in the levels of development. The subprogramme will seek to strengthen regional and subregional economic cooperation for promoting trade, investment and technology linkages and accelerating industrial development. High priority will be accorded to the needs of the least developed, landlocked and island developing countries and the countries with economies in transition, to facilitate their integration into the mainstream of the region's dynamic growth in trade, investment and technology flows.

15.11 More specifically, the objectives of the subprogramme for which the Trade and Industry Division is responsible, are:

(a) To enhance the national capacity of developing countries to respond effectively to challenges and opportunities emerging from the global trading and investment environment;

(b) To assist the developing countries, with particular attention to the needs of the least developed, landlocked and island developing countries and countries with economies in transition, to accelerate their industrial and technological development and to promote

their exports, *inter alia*, through human resource development and enhancement of the role of the private sector;

(c) To enhance regional cooperation to promote trade efficiency and electronic commerce and to facilitate access to information technology;

(d) To strengthen policy and institutional support for the development of export-oriented small and medium-sized enterprises and the advancement of women entrepreneurs;

(e) To enhance intraregional and intersubregional flows of trade, investment and technology, *inter alia*, through the strengthening of networks of institutional support services, including regional information services.

Subprogramme 15.2 Development research and policy analysis

15.12 The convergence of macroeconomic policies observed in recent years has been fostered by a marked trend towards deregulation, liberalization and structural reform in most economies in the region. This has enabled them to forge closer links with the global economy, including in the area of financial flows, which offer them opportunities and challenges for achieving sustained economic growth, equitable distribution and poverty alleviation. One of the greatest challenges that the countries face is that of coping with the potential instability caused by external shocks in an increasingly open economic environment. The interactions between domestic economic policies and increasing openness and their joint impact on sustained economic growth, poverty, income distribution and environmental issues are often inadequately understood. Countries of the region have expressed a strong desire to cooperate with each other in sharing experiences in practices and policies to tackle these common issues. In addition, the countries of the region have acknowledged a widening degree of complementarity among their economies with intent to exploit this to their mutual benefit through various forms of regional cooperation, including the streamlining of national economic policies and their harmonization wherever possible.

15.13 However, the large number of least developed, landlocked and island developing countries in the region face serious structural and institutional constraints in fully reaping the benefits from domestic policy reforms, increasing openness and greater regional cooperation. The constraints include low rates of savings and investment, high dependence on a few products for exports, inadequate infrastructure, and shortage of skills and trained manpower. Low administrative capacities and other institutional constraints have limited their ability to implement their reform programmes. Moreover, the island developing countries encounter special difficulties, including geographic isolation and fragmentation, shortage of land-based resources and diseconomies of scale, resulting in high costs of infrastructure, investment and production, while the landlocked countries face transit and transport problems that impede their growth.

15.14 The objectives of the subprogramme, for which the Development Research and Policy Analysis Division, in cooperation with the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre, is responsible, are:

(a) To increase understanding of the economic and social development situation in the region, to highlight trends and emerging problems and to draw the attention of policy makers to priority concerns;

(b) To contribute to the awareness and understanding on the part of national policy makers of the possibilities for and constraints vis-à-vis the implementation and management of macroeconomic policies conducive to sustained economic growth, poverty alleviation

and the integration of environmental concerns into macroeconomic decision- and policy-making processes;

(c) To enhance the understanding of policy makers of financial and macroeconomic instability arising from external shocks and to assist in strengthening institutions and policies to cope with such instability;

(d) To strengthen the institutional capacity for achieving sound economic governance in countries of the region consonant with their increasing exposure to the global economy, in particular in the area of finance;

(e) To advocate those policies which promote regional cooperation in economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific on the basis of shared experiences and the growing complementarities among economies of the region;

(f) To strengthen national capacities in least developed, landlocked and island developing countries in areas related to flows of official development assistance, external debt and implementation of regional and global mandates aimed at the improvement of their economic and social condition, including the realization of key objectives of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s and any successor programme. In addition, for island developing countries, to enhance the capacity of Governments to analyse, devise policies and build machinery for the effective implementation of measures identified at the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

(g) To meet the needs of the least developed, landlocked and island developing countries and economies in transition in the areas of macroeconomic reforms, policy management and resource mobilization and use through the provision of analysis, technical assistance and advisory services;

(h) To enhance human resource development in the least developed, landlocked and island developing countries and the economies in transition, especially developing the skills of public officials, in particular in the areas of macroeconomic policy formulation, appraisal and management of development projects and sectoral areas of priority interest to the countries concerned.

Subprogramme 15.3 Social development

15.15 The objectives of the subprogramme, for which the Social Development Division is responsible, are:

(a) To enhance region-wide awareness of critical social development, human resources development, and women in development issues, with specific reference to poverty alleviation;

(b) To promote the formulation and implementation of effective social policies, plans and programmes aimed at alleviating poverty, strengthening family support and enhancing the quality of life of all social groups, including women, youth, older persons and disabled persons, and pursuing vigorous development of the region's human resources endowment;

(c) To strengthen national capabilities to implement at the regional level the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development (1995); the Manila Declaration on Accelerated Implementation of the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region (1997); the Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region; the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region (1994); the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond (1997); the United Nations Proclamation on Ageing (1992); the Agenda for Action for the Asian

and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002; the Jakarta Declaration and Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women in Asia and the Pacific (1994); and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995);

(d) To promote partnership among Governments and civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in planning and implementing social development, human resources development and women in development policies, plans and programmes;

(e) To promote the empowerment of social groups, in particular women, youth, older persons and disabled persons, through such means as increased equality in the access to productive resources and social services, and promotion of legislation on equal opportunities and full participation in development;

(f) To promote inter-agency cooperation and joint action on social issues related to poverty alleviation, human resources development, women in development, youth development, older persons, disabled persons, and drug demand reduction and prevention of human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS).

15.16 In the implementation of work to achieve the above objectives, special attention will be paid to the needs of the least developed, landlocked and island developing countries, as well as to the economies in transition.

Subprogramme 15.4 Population and rural and urban development

15.17 The subprogramme will focus, *inter alia,* on (a) the identification and understanding of social and economic issues in the areas of population and rural and urban development that are directly related to the alleviation of poverty; (b) advocacy to increase the awareness of the critical issues in population and rural and urban development among policy makers, civil society and individuals; and (c) the development of appropriate population, rural and urban strategies and policies to improve the quality of life of the poor. Priority will be accorded to the needs of the least developed, landlocked and island developing countries, specifically those relating to sustainable rural development.

15.18 The objectives of the subprogramme, for which the Population and Rural and Urban Development Division is responsible, are:

(a) To increase the understanding of the complex interrelationships involved in population and rural and urban development, with special emphasis on the rural and urban poor, population and reproductive health dynamics, gender issues, migration, employment and production, and the environment;

(b) To strengthen the technical, managerial and organizational capacities of Governments at all levels to formulate integrated population, rural and urban development policies and programmes for alleviating poverty and improving the quality of life, taking into account the regional implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, held in 1994, and the recommendations of the Bali Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development;

(c) To strengthen the capacity of Governments and regional and international associations of local authorities, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, academic institutions and other regional or subregional groupings to develop regional human settlement plans of action addressing priority issues specific to the Asia and Pacific region as a follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

(d) To increase and strengthen civil society partnerships with broad participation, by promoting participatory approaches at local, community and higher levels in dealing with population issues and rural and urban development;

(e) To promote economically and environmentally appropriate usage of technologies aimed at achieving sustainable agricultural and rural development;

(f) To improve the processing, management, communication and dissemination of population and rural and urban development data and information, particularly that required for advocacy within the civil society and for the formulation of effective poverty alleviation policies.

Subprogramme 15.5 Environment and natural resources development

15.19 The challenge for the region is to reverse the deteriorating environmental trends. The goal is to strengthen national capacities in achieving environmentally sound development and sustainable natural resources development and management. Focus will be on the regional and subregional strategies and action programmes that emerged from recent global conferences such as the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in 1992, and on the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21, held in June 1997. At the same time, efforts will be made to integrate a gender perspective into the activities under the subprogramme. To that end, the objectives of the subprogramme, for which the Environment and Natural Resources Development Division is responsible, are:

(a) To promote integration of environmental considerations into social and economic decision-making at the national, subregional and regional levels; to assist Governments in strengthening capacities of national institutions for development and implementation of environmental policies and plans; and to promote increased roles of major groups and the private sector, as well as enhanced public awareness and participation, in environmental protection;

(b) To strengthen the capacity of Governments in formulating and implementing policies for the sustainable development and management of energy through sound choices of energy options, energy demand management, energy conservation, energy efficiency and use of new and renewable energy technologies;

(c) To facilitate a regional dialogue to promote regionally coordinated national energy plans in the context of overall economic development plans, through the periodic exchange of views and experience in the implementation of energy policies and plans on possible subregional energy/power networks and on common environmental protection initiatives;

(d) To strengthen the capacity of Governments in the formulation of policies and implementation of plans and programmes on assessment, integrated development and management and protection of water resources, and in implementation of innovative approaches for demand management and for efficient use of water;

(e) To facilitate regional cooperation in environmental management of mineral resource development, and to strengthen national capabilities in the formulation of policies and strategies for the implementation of programmes for the development of mineral resources and investment promotion in the sector, and for the application of geologic aspects in land use and urban planning;

(f) To promote regional cooperation on space technology applications and strengthen national capacities in the applications of remote sensing, geographical

information system and other spatial information technologies for natural resource management, environmental monitoring, disaster management and development planning;

(g) To promote the development, application and transfer of environmentally sound technologies for environmental protection and sustainable development of natural resources to contribute to the strengthening of national capacities in achieving sustainable development;

(h) To assist Governments in their efforts in water-related and geologic natural disaster reduction through promotion of prevention and preparedness measures, including risk analysis, structural and non-structural measures, and hazard monitoring.

Subprogramme 15.6 Transport, communications, tourism and infrastructure development

15.20 Although the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific has come to an end, the need to address in an effective manner the issue of inadequate and inefficient infrastructure facilities and services continues, as demonstrated by the Commission's adoption of the New Delhi Action Plan on infrastructure 1997-2006 in its resolution 51/8. The need to accord greater priority to tourism in the work of ESCAP was emphasized by the Commission at its fifty-first and fifty-second sessions. To that end, the objectives of the subprogramme, which is implemented by the Transport, Communications, Tourism and Infrastructure Development Division, are:

(a) To improve the planning process in developing infrastructure facilities and services at all levels, and to improve the efficiency of their administration, management and operation in the countries of the region;

(b) To promote private sector participation in national infrastructure development through financing, management, operations and risk-sharing, with a view to developing transport, communications, tourism and infrastructural aspects of electric power required to sustain the economic and social growth process;

(c) To promote the development of interregional and intraregional transport linkages to enhance international trade and tourism, through the implementation of Commission resolutions 52/9 and 48/11, with emphasis on the integrated Asian land transport infrastructure development project comprising the Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway projects, as well as land transport facilitation measures. The formulation of Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway networks will be completed and action plans to improve efficiency of transport along those networks, with particular reference to landlocked and transit countries, will be formulated. The secretariat, in close cooperation with other international organizations, will also promote freight forwarding and multimodal transport to facilitate integrated land-cum-sea transport;

(d) To improve policies for planning tourism development, with a clear understanding of the economic impact of tourism; strengthen national capabilities in the development of human resources in the tourism sector and, in particular, tourism marketing; minimize the environmental impact of tourism; and promote tourism investment, facilitation of travel and regional and subregional cooperation in tourism development. The needs of Pacific island countries, least developed countries, economies in transition and countries in an early stage of tourism development will receive special attention;

(e) To increase safety and safe working practices in transport and communication operations and to reduce the adverse environmental impact of the provision of infrastructure facilities and services to acceptable levels. The secretariat will strengthen its assistance to member countries in promoting the safe transport of passengers and goods, in particular

hazardous goods, while maintaining a clean environment, and in implementing environmental impact assessments in relation to infrastructure development and operation;

(f) To increase the participation of economically and socially disadvantaged groups and women, through the provision of and access to infrastructure facilities and services, with a view to making qualitative and quantitative improvements in their living standards. The secretariat will assist member countries in promoting more equitable spatial distribution of economic activities, providing easier access to social amenities, including education and health facilities, and generating employment opportunities.

Subprogramme 15.7 Statistics

15.21 The objectives of the subprogramme, which is implemented by the Statistics Division, are:

(a) To strengthen the capacity of the countries of the region in achieving or making further progress towards sustained national statistical capabilities for the purposes of informed policy-making, planning, programme implementation and monitoring of progress. Special efforts will be made to improve the statistical capability of the least developed, landlocked and island developing countries, as well as economies in transition to identify, collect, process, analyse and utilize data needed for their economic and social development, thereby strengthening their information and statistical base. In the implementation of the subprogramme, greater recognition will be given to the growing competencies of the countries themselves in contributing to capability-building activities;

(b) To widen the scope and improve the accessibility and international comparability of the statistical information compiled and disseminated by the secretariat, taking into account user demands. To that end, the focus will be on greater use of electronic technology in the acquisition and provision of data and information, and on reducing the response burden of countries;

(c) To strengthen the role of the countries of the region in the development of international standards, the use of improved methodology for data collection, processing and analysis, and the greater utilization of statistics. In line with the recommendations of the United Nations Statistical Commission, the secretariat will initiate and coordinate at the regional level the development, revision, testing and implementation of selected international statistical standards and, where necessary, their adaptation to meet the conditions and needs of the countries of the region;

(d) To enhance the understanding of the role of information technology and promote the applications of that technology, as well as information resource management in the region, especially in the public sector.

Legislative mandates

Subprogramme 15.1 Regional economic cooperation

General Assembly resolutions

50/101	Science and technology for development
50/119	Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries and a United Nations conference on South-South cooperation
51/21	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization
51/167	International trade and development

51/175 Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy

51/240 Agenda for Development

Commission resolutions

47/2 Seoul Plan of Action for Promoting Industrial Restructuring in Asia and the Pacific

48/1 Declaration on enhancing regional economic cooperation

48/8 Problems faced by the transitional disadvantaged economies in the ESCAP region

49/3 Tehran Declaration on Strengthening Regional Cooperation for Technology-led Industrialization in Asia and the Pacific

50/8 Strengthening of subregional economic cooperation in North-East Asia

50/9 Implementation of the Action Programme for Regional Economic Cooperation in Investment-related Technology Transfer

51/5 Asia-Pacific International Trade Fairs (ASPAT)

51/6 Implementation of the Delhi Declaration on Strengthening Regional Economic Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific towards the Twenty-first Century

52/10 Revised Action Programme for Regional Economic Cooperation in Trade and Investment

52/11 Strengthening of subregional economic cooperation among the south-western member countries of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, including the member countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization

Subprogramme 15.2 Development research and policy analysis

General Assembly resolutions

47/190 Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

47/191 Institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

47/194 Capacity-building for Agenda 21

51/240 Agenda for Development

S-19/2 Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21

Least developed countries

49/94 Enhanced international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problem of developing countries

50/103 Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

51/164 Enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problem of developing countries

Landlocked developing countries

51/168 Transit environment in the landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours

52/183 Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries

Island developing countries

49/122 Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

52/202 Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Commission resolutions

47/5 Regional support for the alleviation of poverty

48/1 Declaration on enhancing regional economic cooperation

48/5 Social Development Strategy for the ESCAP Region Towards the Year 2000 and Beyond

48/8 Problems faced by the transitional disadvantaged economies in the ESCAP region

51/4 Agenda for action on social development in the ESCAP region

51/6 Implementation of the Delhi Declaration on Strengthening Regional Economic Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific towards the Twenty-first Century

52/8 Third Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific

Least developed countries

49/8 Strengthening assistance to least developed countries

Island developing countries

48/9 Strengthening ESCAP assistance to the Pacific island countries

Subprogramme 15.3 Social development

General Assembly resolutions

49/162 Integration of older women in development

50/42 Fourth World Conference on Women

50/81 World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond

50/103 Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

50/107 Observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty and proclamation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty

50/144	Towards full integration of persons with disabilities in society: implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and of the Long-term Strategy to Implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond
50/145	Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders
51/65	Violence against women migrant workers
52/25	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development
52/82	Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: towards a society for all in the twenty-first century
52/100	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action
52/193	First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty
52/195	Women in development
52/196	Developing human resources for development

Commission resolutions

47/5	Regional support for the alleviation of poverty
48/3	Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002
48/5	Social Development Strategy for the ESCAP Region Towards the Year 2000 and Beyond
48/6	Regional cooperation in the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region
49/6	Proclamation and Agenda for Action for the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons, 1993-2002
50/7	Update of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP Region
51/2	Strengthening regional cooperation in human resources development in Asia and the Pacific
51/4	Agenda for Action on Social Development in the ESCAP Region
51/7	Implementation of the Jakarta Declaration and Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women in Asia and the Pacific
51/10	Regional cooperation for the eradication of the demand for drugs subject to abuse and related problems
52/3	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women
52/4	Promoting human resources development among youth in Asia and the Pacific
52/5	Regional cooperation in response to the spread and consequences of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome in the Asian and Pacific region

53/2 Implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action for the Advancement of Women

53/4 Elimination of sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and youth in Asia and the Pacific

Subprogramme 15.4 Population and rural and urban development

General Assembly resolutions

51/176 Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

52/25 Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development

52/93 Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas

52/190 Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

Commission resolutions

49/4 Population and sustainable development: goals and strategies into the twenty-first century

50/3 Participatory human settlements development

52/6 Promotion of environmentally sound and healthy cities

Subprogramme 15.5 Environment and natural resources development

General Assembly resolutions

47/190 Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

47/191 Institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

47/194 Capacity-building for Agenda 21

49/28 Law of the sea

50/117 International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

51/123 International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

S-19/2 Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21

52/198 Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

52/202 Implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Commission resolutions

45/5 Fulfilling the objectives of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction in the ESCAP region

47/7 Integration of environment and development in Asia and the Pacific

47/8	Regional cooperation and coordination in remote sensing and geographic information systems
49/7	Implementation of decisions of the General Assembly on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, including Agenda 21, in Asia and the Pacific
51/11	Regional cooperation on space applications for environment and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific
51/12	Strengthening of the Regional Network of Research and Training Centres on Desertification Control in Asia and the Pacific
52/7	Transfer of environmentally sound technology
52/8	Third Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific
53/3	Framework for the North-East Asian Subregional Programme of Environmental Cooperation

Subprogramme 15.6 Transport, communications, tourism and infrastructure development

General Assembly resolutions

51/168	Transit environment in the landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours
52/183	Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries
52/187	Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s

Commission resolutions

48/1	Declaration on enhancing regional economic cooperation
48/6	Regional cooperation in the implementation of the Jakarta Plan of Action on Human Resources Development in the ESCAP region
48/11	Road and rail transport modes in relation to facilitation measures
49/7	Implementation of decisions of the General Assembly on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, including Agenda 21, in Asia and the Pacific
50/8	Strengthening of subregional economic cooperation in North-East Asia
51/6	Implementation of the Delhi Declaration on Strengthening Regional Economic Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific towards the Twenty-first Century
51/8	Implementation of the New Delhi Action Plan on Infrastructure Development in Asia and the Pacific
52/9	Intra-Asia and Asia-Europe land bridges

Subprogramme 15.7 Statistics

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1993/5 1993 System of National Accounts

1995/7 2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme

Commission resolution

246 (XLII) Statistical services in Asia and the Pacific